

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the following amendments and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-16 are currently pending in the application; Claims 2, 3, 6, 8-11, 14, and 16 having been amended by way of the present response.

In the outstanding Office Action the drawings were objected to because of informalities; and Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,195,543 to Granberg.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 2-8 and 10-16 recite allowable subject matter, such that the claims although objected to would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicants have so-rewritten Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, and 16. Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 4-7 and 12-15 depend from the new independent claims. Applicants have further amended Claim 9 to recite features of original dependent Claim 3. Thus, in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of Claims 2-16.

As stated above the drawings were objected to because of informalities. In response, as shown in the attached replacement sheets, Figure 4 has been amended to include descriptive labels, with the following exceptions. Applicants respectfully note that the tag 61 has as a value, for example, of "1", and that the data length information 63 has a value, for example, of "6," and thus no descriptive labels have been added for these reference numerals. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

As stated above Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Granberg. Applicants respectfully assert that the cancellation of Claim 1, as well as the above-discussed amendment to Claim 9, has overcome the rejection.

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Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 2-16 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

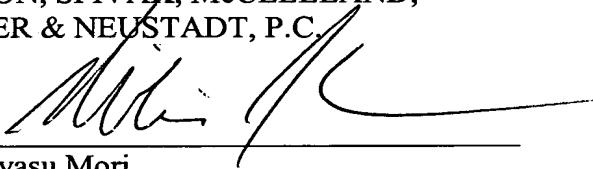
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Respectfully submitted,

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Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 4. This sheet, which includes Fig. 4, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)